

**Tuesday, February 1, 2000**

## **Endeavour launch delayed due to equipment problem**



## **10-year old and 100- year old among VIPs at KSC for launch**

▲ **Launch postponed!** The weather caused the first delay of launch for Space Shuttle Endeavour on the STS-99 mission. Rain and a low cloud ceiling prohibited launch of the Shuttle and the mission was postponed 24 hours. The second delay was due to a problem with the Enhanced Master Events Controller which NASA managers decided to replace. The next target launch date is NET Feb. 9. The photo below shows rollback of the Rotating Service Structure Sunday on Launch Pad 39A.



▲ **Among the VIPs** at KSC for launch of STS-99 were Jonathan Pierce and Ralph Charles. Pierce is a 10-year-old boy who wears a protective cooling suit designed by NASA. The suit allows him freedom of daylight activity which his rare condition -- erythropoietic protoporphyria, a severe sensitivity to ultraviolet light -- prevents. The boy met with CD Roy Bridges and NASA Administrator Dan Goldin. Charles is a 100-year-old pilot who has experienced the history of flight from its origins on the dunes of North Carolina to our travels in space. He knew Orville Wright

and worked with Charles Lindbergh. Ralph Charles is still flying planes today.

◆ **A Retail Sale** will be held at Ransom Road, M6-1671, on Feb. 9, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Inspection of items will be available Tuesday, Feb. 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For further information relating to the retail sale or future sales, please call the **Sales Information Line at 321-867-7605** or visit our Web site at <http://surplus.ksc.nasa.gov> .

◆ **KSC Fitness Centers present "Spring Training."** Throughout the month of February, "Spring" into the O&C Aerobics Studio to attend 10 group exercise classes. Participants will be entered in a drawing to win great prizes, including gift certificates, t-shirts, water bottles and more! For more information, please call 867-7829.

◆ **Reminder: The Federally Employed Women (FEW) 21st Annual Training Program** – "2000 Possibilities" – is being held Wednesday, Feb. 2, and Thursday, Feb. 3, at the Holiday Inn in Cocoa Beach, Fla. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Contact your Training Coordinator or Clara Anderson at 639-3154.

◆ **Did You Know? Tomorrow is Groundhog Day.** Forecasting winter, however, is no longer the sole ownership of Punxsutawney Phil, in Pennsylvania. Others provide the same service: Wiarton Willie, Canada's Groundhog in Bruce County; General Beauregard Lee, Georgia; Jimmy the Groundhog, in Sun Prairie, Wisc.; Tennessee Groundhog, in Silver Point, Tenn.; Octorara Orphie, in Quarryville, Penn.; PeeWee of Mile Square Farm, Vt.; Arkla-homa Will of Arkansas.

**KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.**

**Deadlines: 10 a.m. the day before. Send information, comments or questions to:**

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**Countdown on the Internet -- <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2000/2000.htm>**